for Environment has made many valuable recommendations; if so, what are details in this regard; and

(b) what follow-up programmes are proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix CXLIII, Annexure No. 9]

Repatriation of Refugees encamping in India

262. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugees from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka who are awaiting repatriation to their respective countries of origin; and

(b) what steps have been taken during the past two years to ensure repatriation of these refugees and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The total number of Bangladeshi refugees from the Chittagong Hill Tracts, in refugee camps in Tripura as on July 13, was 47,336. A total of 1,32,322 Sri Lankan refugees were in India as on 30 June, 1987. The Government is unaware of any refugees having crossed over from Pakistan into India.

(b) Ever since this latest influx of Bangladeshi refugees into India began in April 1986, Government has been persistently trying to persuade the Government of Bangladesh to create conditions in the Chittagong Hill Tracts which would encourage refugees to return to their homes voluntarily. So far, however, no refugees have returned.

Government believes that the Sri Lankan refugees will return to their country only after a satisfactory solution to the ethnic problem in that country is found and peace and normalcy returns to the island. Government is continuing its efforts to facilitate a political solution to the ethnic problem by extending its good offices.

Visit of U.S. Defence Delegation to Pakistan

263. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent visit to Pakistan by a U.S. Defence delegation led by General George B. Crist, C-in-C, U.S. General Command;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that the delegation not only took a close look at base facilities for US ships and aircraft but also ascertained ways in which Pakistan could be further integrated into regional security arrangements with the Gulf countries in "Central Area"; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have seen such reports.

(c) Government keep under constant review all developments which